000 592 their aged parents. It was a fairly common practice on Estonian farms for the old folk to build a house for themselves in the vicinity of the farm's main buildings and to leave the latter to the newly married son or daughter. Among the joint families in the cities one could usually find the widow or widower living with children and grandchildren, but when both grandparents were living, they usually had their own household. A widow more often resided with her married daughter than her married son. The trend in modern times has definitely been toward [162] the single family. Since the beginning of World War I, a decline in the size of the family has been taking place, the usual number of children • 462 being two or three. Mothers in middle-class [565] families often worked as teachers, clerks or nurses, using hired help at home. There were

462 cases where even mothers of very large families (11-12 children) held teaching or other positions. The worker's wife usually stayed home with her small children, unless she had her own mother to care for them.

462 Rural families, on the whole, had more children than urban ones. This meant also that a farm wife's duties were more numerous than those of her sisters in the cities; the care of children, housekeeping, the care of the cattle, as well as gardening and even field work when necessary in the summer.

582 The marriage age in Estonia in rural communities as well as urban ones was higher than in America. In many cases marriage was delayed for a farm male because his parents did not want to give over the reins to the son.

000 In general, the family pattern in Estonia

461 seek employment elsewhere without permission
466
of the director of the factory, and if he tries,
[462] the worker may be imprisoned. Women and young people are not safeguarded by law from heavy work. Women work in oil-shale mines and other heavy industries on both day and night shifts.

467 There are trade unions in Soviet Estonia and each worker must contribute one per cent of his wages to his union. But union duties are reversed as compared to the trade unions of the Western world; they protect the interests of the government, organize Socialist competitions in raising the productivity of labor, try to reduce costs of production, exercise economy of raw materials, and so on. Communist ideology explains that in a Socialist society exploitation no longer exists; therefore there is no need